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TNA NEWS

TEXAS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Founded 1960

Incorporated under Texas laws 1960

Vol. XII

October, 1971

No. 10

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Appearing in this No.
10 issue of TNA
News will be a feature
on U.S. Obsolete
and large cent

5th

REMEMBER The
of November the
deadline for the De-
cember issue

PRESIDENT'S

MESSAGE



"WORK AND GROW" -- we are growing! We have a new club in Corsicana and Fred Brooks is at work.



There is a show scheduled for each week end in October. How about providing a table with the TNA representative in charge with plenty of membership blanks. (The TNA secretary has them.) By ordering copies of the TNA News to give to prospective members you have a visible tool to work with. (Order from the editor well in advance of the show at \$6.00 per hundred plus postage.)



The ANA convention this year had the largest attendance in its history. Texas was well represented. Congrat-



WHEN & WHERE?

Many requests have been received for a listing on Texas coin clubs as to when and where they meet. Many of our members travel a great deal and plans could include a visit to a coin club if they had the proper information. We will list different clubs each month. If your club welcomes visitors, let us know when and where the meetings are held.

FORT WORTH COIN CLUB 1st Thursday, Guis Ware 1879 Room.



SOUTH PLAINS COIN CLUB 2nd Tuesday, Municipal Garden & Arts Center, Lubbock.

ulations to the Amarillo Coin Club for winning first place Class A in National Coin Week competition, to Frank O'Sullivan and Neil Nichols, first place winners in exhibits; Tom Bain and John Davis for their 25-year membership awards; and to Virgil Hancock for his election to the ANA Board of Governors. If I have failed to acknowledge any one, I do apologize and congratulate you.



People are interested in numismatics -- let us sell our organization to them, tell them what TNA can do for them. Ask them to join, take the application and the money and send it to the secretary. **WE WILL GROW IF WE WORK.**

KEY CITY COIN CLUB 1st Tuesday, Abilene Savings Assn. Abilene.



CORSICANA COIN CLUB 1st Tuesday, Recreation Center, First Methodist Church.



ALAMO COIN CLUB 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, Red Cross Bldg., San Antonio.



TEXOMALAND COIN & STAMP CLUB 1st & 3rd Friday, Chamber of Commerce, Denison.



WACO COIN CLUB 2nd Thursday Texas Power & Light Service Center.

CALIFORNIA GOLD

BY: E. H. BROOKS,
San Angelo, Texas

Some one once said "Had it not been for the old and jewels of the Orient Christopher Columbus would never have sailed Westward." This could have changed the events of history as we know it today.

Gold is one of the earliest of metals known to man. It is malleable and can be rolled so thin that you can see through it. It has been used for centuries as a medium of exchange and as a backing for money in nations for countless ages. Although gold is found in many countries its scarcity and the cost of mining it has made its value remain high for a long time in the world.

Although the discovery of gold in California was not the largest discovery nor the first in the United States its find there in 1848 was one of the three or four great milestones in our American history. It is said that the Motherlode in California rated 12th in value of gold produced among the gold deposits of the world with a figure of 270 million dollars worth produced. The deposit rated first in production of gold was at Witwatersrand, South Africa in 1884 with about 9 trillion 715 million dollars worth being mined.

However, the discovery of gold in California in 1848 was the most portentous event in the history of modern mining because it gave an immediate stimulus to worldwide migration, it induced an enormous expansion of international trade, and it caused scientific industry to invade the remote waste places of this land.

Prior to the year 1848 there was a period of economic depression in the United States and the years from 1833 to 1844 were called the "hard times years." In the year 1848 our country

had not yet recovered from the eleven years of depression.

When John Marshall, a foreman for a lumber mill owned by a man named Sutter, found gold nuggets in the creek at Sutter's mill on January 24, 1848 and President Polk announced the discovery of gold in California to Congress in December of the same year it motivated two things, first, everyone who could do so, headed for the gold mines by land and by sea to try and share in its riches. Secondly, ship loads of merchandise to supply the needs of these people were sent to San Francisco from all the nations of the world.

The discovery of gold in California contributed more to abruptly end this trying economic time of our nation than any other factor. The tremendous amount of this precious metal on the world market brought the U.S. to a stable financial position in world trade which it has never relinquished.

Let us now review the events. This can be told about these changes on this year of 1848 it was estimated there were 2,000 Americans in California prior to the discovery of gold. St. Louis, Mo. and cities close by the Mississippi river were about as far west as American civilization had progressed to any great extent. Thus travel to California entailed a long treacherous drive in covered wagons for 2,000 miles over plains, desert and mountains as well as crossing nearly impassable rivers and canyons. Otherwise travel was by sea around the southern tip of South America as we had no Panama Canal at this time. But westward they did travel in one of the greatest stampedes of human beings our country has ever known. Not all of them reached this end of the rainbow to find their pot of gold as privation among the human

beings and the animals took its toll. The shortage of water, food and the presence of disease as well as physical unpreparedness were encountered enroute to their destination. The heat from the desert shrunk the wagon wheels and made the wheels give way when the rims fell off and the alkali dust along with the alkaline water caused countless complications as well as death to many.

In spite of all obstacles encountered many of these pioneers did arrive in California and in July of 1849 there were 15,000 in the gold state, while in December of the same year this had increased to 53,000. By the year 1853, five years after the discovery of gold, California boasted of a population of 300,000 persons.

Even in 1848 there existed a shortage of gold and silver coins for general circulation and you can imagine what this sudden increase in population caused in trade. Gold nuggets and gold dust were both plentiful but it was not acceptable in all classes of trade. Foreign and Mexican coins were about the only ones used in California during these early years in California. These were all acceptable at face as determined by size: peso for dollar, 50 cent size for 50 cents and 25 cent size for 25 cents regardless of their denomination or country of origin. December 30, 1850 the U.S. did not have its paper money until 1851 and no banks were in existence until Wells Fargo began accepting deposits for the people to come customers. Thus such reliable firm as Moffat and Company who made the \$50 gold slug, the \$5.00 and \$10.00 gold coins helped bridge the gap with trade coins until 1854 when the branch mint at San Francisco was established. When Moffat and Company was dissolved a new firm known as the U.S. Assay Office of Gold took over the production of gold coins using the Moffat name. Still

later the firm of Kellogg and Richter took over the minting of these gold coins. Most of these old private issues were later melted as their gold value was more than their face value.

All the merchandise being shipped into San Francisco had to pass through the U.S. Customs with duty having to be paid and they would only accept gold or silver coins. This naturally took all the available coins from free circulation as individuals and merchants as well as importers needed negotiable coins to carry on their trade when only gold nuggets and gold dust were plentiful. Importers especially were forced to hoard all silver coins as China and the Orient would accept no other payment for their goods.

Gold Dust had an intrinsic value of \$16.00 an ounce but many had to sell it for \$10.00 an ounce in spendable coins and some even as low as \$6.00 an ounce in exchange. Gold dust and nuggets were exchanged freely but not always to the satisfaction of both parties. Bartenders were hired on the basis of how much gold dust they could pick up in one pinch as that was the price charged for a drink in the bars.

This situation finally brought about the private minting of gold coins in 1849 by merchants with their names on the coins. This allowed some relief until some obscure merchant began to deliver the gold with sugar and other meals making them unacceptable. A gold discovery was found in 1848. Records show that even after the establishment of the San Francisco Mint that private gold coins supplied over 50 per cent more gold coins for trade than did the mint. There were over 15 private firms who minted gold coins in California and of these firms, 10 made the \$5.00 and \$10.00 coins, six made the \$20.00 coin while only three made the \$50.00

(Continued on Page 14)

THE CADILLAC OF U.S. COINS

By, DR. FRED C. IDOMFYER,
San Angelo, Texas

The St. Gaudens 20-dollar gold piece is recognized by many as one of the most beautiful of all United States coins. This coin was designed by Augustus Saint Gaudens who is generally acclaimed as the foremost of American sculptors during his generation.

A total of 193,523 units of this type were printed during the years 1967 to 1975. None of the cancelled 192 were ever reissued into circulation, however. Of this total 187 were not to prove credits. The largest amount of \$100 bills issued was issued in 1926 when a total of 8,810,000 were printed.

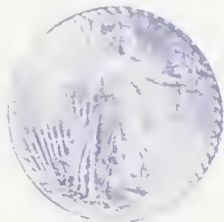
The reverse of this coin is dominated by a large eagle in full flight. Beneath the eagle is the rising sun with rays extending upward. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA is in a circular arrangement in the top of the reverse design and immediately underneath

this legend appears the denomination, TWENTY DOLLARS. From 1898 on, the inscription IN GOD WE TRUST appeared in raised letters on the circular edge of the sun. The edge of the coin is lettered E-PLURIBUS UNUM.

The obverse of this coin shows Liberty in classic garments and standing on a rocky promontory. The left foot is planted firmly on a rock which is higher than the surrounding terrain. Liberty's hair and garments are wind-blown. Behind the figure of Liberty are rays of the sun. In her right hand Miss Liberty holds a flag, and in her left an olive branch is held in her left hand. Above her head is the word LIBERTY. The date of issue is to the right of Liberty's left ankle. The mint mark if any, appears immediately above the date. The eagle is seldom seen in the obverse design of coins. For the 1977 issue, the eagle is in Roman numerals. From 1900 on the date is in Arabic numerals. Forty-eight stars almost encircle the design.

Variations of this coin include high and extra-high relief specimens that were struck as experimental pieces in 1907. Variations in the date and motto were mentioned above.

The retail value for coins of this type ranges from \$18.250 for an extra high relief 1907 with lettered edge to about \$60 for a common date coin such as 1924 or 1927.



Saint-Gaudens' \$20 Gold

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(Continued on Page 11)

TYPE COLLECTORS INDICATE ACTION

By BRAD MILLS
Dallas Morning News

Quite a resurgence in collector interest seems to be taking place in this country. Although more than five million persons show varying degrees of attention to special coins for putting aside, all do not pursue the hobby with the zeal of a dedicated collector. The fringe collector appears to be coming into the picture with increased zeal, due to wide publicity given new coin issues in various metals.



Brad Mills

A good clue to increased numismatic activity is the demand for type coins. When a new collector gets serious enough to want to acquire one coin of each United States series (cents, nickels, quarters, etc.), he has taken the plunge toward extended purchase of our older or obsolete coins that eventually make a set going back to 1792.

The type enthusiast wants only one coin of a kind, rather than those of all years and mints. He may have less than 100 coins in his holders, but his set is completed for the United States. At the moment the demand for classic type coins is strong. Of course, many beginners are still trying to get into the dates and mint marks of the more recent issues, but they mostly come around to the type idea as the going gets rough.

Requests for information on U.S. proof sets as both numismatic and investment items for the future keep

coming in at an accelerated rate. Many of these calls are from older persons who consider putting aside up to 100 or 250 of these sets for disposition in 10, 20 or 30 years. This is a continuation of the interest of the non-collectors who also have been toying with the idea of acquiring gold and silver coins as a form of investment against inflation - at least in a small way.

The author has passed on a great deal of information on U.S. proof coins, particularly in yearly sets, but a new and unformed segment of collectors and semi-speculators seem to join in the parade every few months, and their knowledge of these special coins is so limited that they want all of the answers in a hurry.

Frankly, the late proof sets issued in large quantities since 1955 have shown no spectacular rise on an annual basis. They now are selling for considerably less than in 1965. The 1964 "Kennedy" proof set reached a peak price of \$18.00 in early 1965, but now retails at about \$5.50. Since 1955 about 27 million proof sets have been issued. Most are sold in great largely in quantities. It is not possible to predict the future value or numismatic importance of proof sets, yet it seems significant that all are now quoted at prices higher than the original issuing prices. It may even be a good time to acquire a few sets for the future generation to inherit.

Those who want proof coins as such, without regard to speculative appeal, should purchase them for what they were originally issued - specially struck sets for the collector who wants the best in his cabinet.

NEWS ROUNDUP – A.N.A.

By NORMA MATHER
Corpus Christi, Texas
A.N.A. Representative

NOW IS THE TIME - for all members and friends to do some letter writing to their senators and representatives in Washington urging them to pass legislation providing for a few series of coins and at least some paper money.



Norma Mather

to appropriately commemorate the 200th anniversary of our nation's birth. At present the U.S. Department of Treasury is in a deadlock with the Fed. BUT - and there hangs the tale - here is the sign for the letter writing, telegram, etc. - the chance to make a law with the directives of Congress. It's up to us to direct Congress to run this directive. Wish it thinking and let George do it, just want work. It takes many letters. We've found that letters to legislators over multiple signatures (with addresses) added at meetings, shows or in shops get attention. Will you help?



The 80th A.N.A. Convention was indeed exciting. It surpassed this representative's expectations and set records. The facilities were all anyone could wish, though expensive. The fixed price for all rooms in a category precluded unhappiness occasioned by rates higher than the one chosen from those indicated on the reservation form. But, in case anyone asks how far it is from the elevator to room 5140 in the Washington Hilton

you can assure him it's far enough that walking long the good exercise it's claimed to be. An occupant's health should noticeably improve during a 3-day convention - Wheel!

The bourse with its 144 dealers had something for all, much of it close. The auction sessions were lively, prices paid were high.

Exhibits were very interesting, some that didn't score high enough to win awards were of materials rarely seen or unusually presented, catching the viewer's fancy. We were so proud of Texans David Cervin and Neil Nichols who took top honors in "Coins Before 1500" and Junior - "Foreign," respectively. David's exhibit was really tops, winning best in show. He's from Amarillo. Neil's from Houston. The Bureau of the Mint's exhibit of its first coming press, that struck medals on small and planche's only to have them obliterated in the old rolling mill and the Janvier Reducing Lathes were very impressive and educational as was the Bureau of Engraving and Printing's demonstration of how our paper money is made.

Of special import to you and me is the continuing concern of the Leadership of ANA with making it an organization for all of us with expanding and improving services and greater attention given ideas (frequently criticisms) of the rank and file members. The library, insurance plan, authentication service and, most recently, the museum are examples of the former, revision and clarification of exhibit rules, of the latter.

The more members ANA has the less the costs per person. An invitation from you may be all that's needed to gain a new member. Try it!

from the

first vice president

Texas Numismatic Association

Col. Charles A. Wingo

Rt. 2, Box 109
Denison, Texas 75020



Everyone is going to want one of the miniature TNA News booklets which will be available at the TNA convention in Dallas. Its purpose is to acquaint visitors with the history, activities and objectives of TNA and it will be crammed full of interesting highlights about its ten years of existence.

Current plans call for printing only 4000 of the booklets to be paid for by 100 patrons who will have contributed \$2.50 each. These clubs, organizations and individuals will have their names printed in the booklet as donors. If you have not already done so, please send \$2.50 to TNA, Box 74, Weslaco, Texas 78596. Since the Dallas Coin Club is predicting an attendance of 8000, I'm afraid the booklets will disappear far too soon. I know that they are primarily intended for non-members but as I stated before, everyone will want one. With that in mind, you might want to include a little extra (or send a second check) so that additional booklets may be printed.

Miriam will reserve a copy of the miniature News for each patron, so if you want to help support this project, and if you want to be sure of getting a copy, send in your contribution today!



The head judge of competitive exhibits at the 1972 TNA convention has been chosen and he has graciously

accepted. Now, members of the host Dallas Coin Club and I are busy completing the staff of judges. We need a specialist in each field of numismatics, including ancient, medieval, paper money, U.S. and foreign coins, medals and tokens.

If you are a specialist in one or more of the above fields, won't you please help by volunteering to join the staff of judges? Or perhaps you would like to recommend someone. Send your suggestions to me for consideration by the general chairman, TNA convention, and the head judge.



1972 TNA CONVENTION

April 14, 15, 16

Baker Hotel Downtown Dallas

Bourse Information

Thos. C. Bain
Chairman

3717 Marquette Dr. Dallas 75225



Question:

What do you want to sell?

Question:

What do you want to buy?

Your correspondence will be mighty welcome!

VIRGIL HANCOCK

Chairman

NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

From the
second vice president

Texas Numismatic Association

Fred Clark
 2124 Lakeside Dr.
 San Angelo, Texas 76901



By the time you read this the Board meeting will have been held in Austin. You officers of TNA trust that they will be accepted for your beliefs and the betterment of TNA. We know that we will not please all the people all the time but as this is a Board meeting, I am making up people from all over the State, it would be as you would have it. If not you did not advise me and I would not have it. Let your decision stand. He can only act on what you tell him know what you want to have done. Let us all work together that TNA will grow and prosper. Remember the word for the year: GROWTH.

There are five governors who have added their five new members for this year. Then there are some who have not signed one new member. **SHOW TNA, TALK TNA, HELP MAKE IT GROW.** Always be ready to talk TNA when given the chance at local club meetings. Always be ready to sign a new member to a growing worthwhile group such as TNA. The number of members who have signed at least one new member is very small. It should be over 50 and as is, it is way below this number. Again let us all work together and help TNA GROW.

School is back in swing and people are back at work. Meetings should be increasing in attendance. They are here in the part of the State that

I am able to attend. Shows are being held. Attend them as you will get something out of them and meet some really nice people. They will enjoy meeting you. Some of the dealers travel some distance just to attend a show. True this is how they make their bread and butter. Without the collector to attend, they will not return to a show the coming year and in time it will stop. We need all of these kind of shows we need. Here is a good place to add to the growth of TNA. Remember the word for the year: GROWTH.

THE CADILLAC

(Continued from Page 7)

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Key City Coin Club

Present Abilene

11TH ANNUAL COIN SHOW

Best Facilities Ever
 At New Civic Center

FEBRUARY 26-27, 1972

OUTSTANDING EXHIBITS PLANNED

Gen. Chairman, Buz Sawyer
 Box 2741, Abilene, Tex. 79604

Mrs. Augusta Folda
120 Heritage Drive
Tyler, Texas 75701

2059 (D-4) Clyde L. Grimm, Sr.,
Box 196, Martindale, Tex. 78655



from the treasurer

Texas Numismatic Association

Stanford M. Kennady

2901 Silverleaf Dr., Austin, Texas 78757



Balance on hand as of
July 31, 1971 \$5,863 73

RECEIPTS

TNA News Ads	147 00	
Sale of TNA News	12 00	
Toward Cost of		
TNA News in		
Minutiae	10 00	
Sale of 1971		
Medals	66 00	235 00
		\$6,098 73

DISBURSEMENTS

TNA News Editor -		
August Travel Al-		
lowance and July		
Petty Cash	83 46	
Barner Printing Co		
Mailing Stencils	9 80	
July issue -		
279 copies	231 00	
Postage	66 77	
Engraving	3 07	
TNA Librarian -		
Petty cash	15 04	
Denton Commercial		
Printing Postage		
on 1971 Medals	4 62	413 76
		\$5,684 97

Balance on hand as of		
August 31, 1971	\$5,684 97	
Operating Funds	\$5,542 97	
Ear-marked Funds	142 00	

NOTE: The following funds cannot be used for anything except the purpose for which they are ear-marked. The balance above includes these

funds except as noted below

TNA Library Fund as of	
July 31, 1971	\$157 04
Disbursements as above	15 04
Balance as of	
August 31, 1971	142 00
TNA News Continuance	
Fund Certificate of	
Deposit	\$1,328 30

(This amount is not shown in the balance above.)

HONORED

A tribute was made to Lloyd Colvin of Amarillo for hosting the 1971 TNA convention - the following appeared in the Amarillo Globe Times Accolade

For his untiring efforts in bringing to Amarillo, the Texas Numismatic Association state convention last Spring which drew a record crowd - the largest number to attend such a convention, even in much larger cities - as well as the largest attendance at an Amarillo convention Colvin, a past president of the Amarillo Coin Club, made the successful bid for the convention a year earlier in Houston. He served as general chairman, helping to arrange for the many convention details and courtesies that were highly praised afterwards by the national coin dealers who put on displays.

ISABELLA QUARTER

Since Congress on August 5, 1893 had approved the striking of the gold dollar, it felt obliged to have part of the celebration of the World's Columbian Exposition held in Chicago in 1893 struck by Act of Congress. President of the Southern Numismatic Assn. wanted the coins to have a part in the great Fair, so soon convinced Congress to include the minting of a commemorative quarter dollar. The half dollars were sold by the Board of Gentlemen Managers - so Congress approved a Board of Lady Managers to be in charge of the quarter. It pictured Queen Isabella of Spain on the obverse and the reverse showed a kneeling woman spinning yarn. Miss Anthony thought it would help the Fair financially and further the cause of women's rights.

CALIFORNIA GOLD —

(Continued from Page 6)

gold slugs. There were evidently many different manufacturers of the small gold coins in 25, 50 cent and one dollar size as over 400 different varieties have been cataloged. They were made both in round and odd shapes with different obverses and reverses for a period of some 30 years, from 1752 to 1882 when a Federal law was passed forbidding the use of the word dollar or cents on any gold piece other than regular U.S. issues. The original small gold piece, 25 cents through the dollar had the word cents, dollar or dollar on the reverse. These should not be confused with the souvenir pieces that are now available for one dollar each or less, whereas the originals sell for \$7.50 to \$47.00 each according to date and condition.

Much of our heritage we can con-

from the librarian

T.N.A. Memorial Library

Wally Gilmore

Box 74, Weslaco, Texas 78596

Many thanks to the Census Christi-
Con Club for hav-
ing the slides in
Set #4A remount-
ed in new metal
rims. We have
found that clubs
sometimes do not
use the correct
projector for show-
ing the slides and
they remove the



Wally Gilmore

rims to fit the projector; then putting the mounts back on. This ruins the usage of the slides. To prevent this, please go to your camera shop and they will recommend the proper projector.

Since January 1 there have been 26 requests for slide sets made. During 1970, 40 requests were filled. The most popular set seems to be #2, Commemorative half dollars, followed by #4A, #3A and #3B.

If you need a list of slide sets and books contained in the TNA Memorial Library, send your request to Box 74 Weslaco Tex 78596.

tribute to these hardy pioneers of 1843 and 1849 who suffered untold hardships but established a way of life to survive and mold another interesting chapter to our early history of the United States of America.

(References: Money Talks - California Southern Numismatic Assn. Gold Rushes and Mining Camps of the Early America West - Vardis Fisher.)

Tenth

Annual

COIN SHOW

PRESENTED BY

LIBERTY COIN CLUB

OF CORPUS CHRISTI



Exhibits ★ Bourse

10 A.M. TO 8 P.M.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24th

10 A.M. TO 6 P.M.

MEMORIAL COLISEUM

CORPUS CHRISTI — ADMISSION FREE

General Chairman JOHN RICKETTS

Bourse W. B. PARKS

P. O. Box 7001 -- Corpus Christi



EVENTS CALENDAR

OCTOBER 9-10

FORT WORTH COIN CLUB, annual show, Green Oaks Inn, III-20 Inn, Lee M. Jey, Box 7167, Ft. Worth.



OCTOBER 16-17

PARIS COIN CLUB, 6th annual North Star of Texas coin show, Paris Junior College Bourse; Joe B. Bills, 248 1st SW, Paris 75460.



OCTOBER 23-24

LIBERTY COIN CLUB, Corpus Christi, annual show, Memorial Coliseum. Write club, Box 7001, Corpus Christi 78415.



OCTOBER 23

GALVESTON COUNTY COIN CLUB, Texas City, Country Market, Nessler Civic Center. Gen. Chrmn.: Claude Ressler, Box 2331, Texas City 77590.



OCTOBER 30-31

DALLAS EAST COIN CLUB, annual show, Lockwood Hall, Lockwood Village.



NOVEMBER 7

LAMB COUNTY COIN CLUB, Littlefield, annual show. Write: D. O. Joplin, 404 College, Levelland 79336.



1972 SEASON

JANUARY 14-16

GREATER HOUSTON COIN CLUB, INC., annual show, Rice Hotel. Write Club, Box 2963, Houston 77001.

FEBRUARY 27

KEY CITY COIN CLUB, 11th annual show, Green Oaks Inn, Abilene. Write: Baz Sawyer, Box 2741, Abilene 79601.



MARCH 5

LEVELLAND COIN & STAMP CLUB, annual Series show, High School Cafeteria. Write: D. O. Joplin, 404 College, Levelland 79336.



APRIL 8-9

SOUTH PLAINS COIN CLUB, Lubbock, Koko Palace. Write: D. O. Joplin, 404 College, Levelland 79336.



APRIL 14-16

TEXAS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION, 14th convention, Baker Hotel, Dallas. **PLAN TO ATTEND!**



SEPTEMBER 16-17

BEAUMONT COIN CLUB annual show. Details Later.

Book Importations

Tri-Ocean, Inc., book importers and publishers of San Francisco, Calif., have announced the acquisition of several numismatic books imported for collectors.

Headlining the list is an 80 page book on Australian coins by John Gartner concerning the complete coinage of Australia, New Zealand, New Guinea and Fiji. It gives an authoritative and up-to-date valuation on all issues. Also described are the Holy Dollar and Australian tokens. "The Australian Coin Catalogue" sells for \$10.00.

Other importations are "Coins and Tokens of Tasmania," "Early Indian Coins and Currency System" and "Coins of Medieval India." All may be ordered from Tri-Ocean, Inc. at 62 Townsend St., San Francisco, Calif. 94107.



DISTRICT MEETINGS

DISTRICT ONE:

Members of Mineral Wells Coin Club voted to hold the sixth annual coin show in March 1972 with exact dates to be selected later. Forty-eight attended the two August meetings held at Crazy Water Hotel.



R. W. Darrah
Governor

Programs have included a White Elephant auction with items ranging from bunion pads and antique cigarette papers to desk lamps. Ed Mabry was auctioneer. Dennis Rabideau conducted the regular auction assisted by Pat Glover. A. O. Thomas gave the program on small U.S. currency giving information and advice on beginning a collection.

The club meets the first and third Thursday nights at the hotel and visitors are welcome. Eligible for special prizes and to place bids on the auction. —Lee R. Waltman, Pres.



The Fort Worth Coin Club held a watermelon party and swap night in August. It was a rainy night but a good crowd turned up and had good fellowship in spite of the fact that the president, Lt. Commander Everett Hull, is teaching in New Jersey and will be back when the Fall term begins in Fort Worth schools, and the vice president, J. N. Medley and his brother, Lee, both fell from a scaffold and both broke their left arms. They were injured while working at a

mission church in Carrizo Springs and were hospitalized in San Antonio and later moved to Fort Worth where Lee still remains in the hospital and will for some time as he also suffered internal injuries.

Final plans for the October 10-11 coin show were to be reviewed at the September meeting. —Col. Raymond Darrah, Gov., Dist. 1.



DISTRICT TWO:

Final preparations for the upcoming coin show to be hosted by the Odessa Coin Club were made at the August meeting with 41 present. The club meets at the YMCA building.

TNA achievement awards were made to Bill Hodges. Gene Hurt and Ashley Lawson. Hurt gave a talk on German Colonies type coins. —H. R. Peppard, Gov., Dist. 2.



DISTRICT THREE:

Plans are being furthered for the 11th annual coin show to be sponsored by Key City Coin Club in Abilene. The show will be held February 26-27 at the Civic Center and for more information you may write Buz Sawyer, Box 2741 in Abilene 79604.



Buz Sawyer
Governor

The club is growing and interest is high. They are trying to have each member bring a program to the club. Several have participated in the program and each one has been very

educational Appreciation is expressed to the TNA officers who attended the District 3 joint meeting. It was felt that this helped the members to feel more a part of the state organization. —Faye Cross, Sec.

Central Texas Coin Club of Brownwood met in August at the Blue Flame Room of the Lone Star Gas Bldg with 46 in attendance. A report was heard from officers and appointment of a committee to select the design for the 1972 club medal. Members of the committee are Gus Snodgrass, chairman; Austin Maedgen and Clark Coursey. The committee will report at the next meeting.

Ellis Brooks of San Angelo spoke on "Military Currency" and showed several specimens from his collection. Also on the program, a number of members gave short talks and showed articles from their second and

third hobbies. —Melba Coursey, Reporter.

Thirty were present for the recent meeting of Nolan County Coin Club when it met at Texas Bank & Trust Building in Sweetwater.

Fred Clark, TNA first vice president, reminded the group of the TNA board meeting October 3 in Austin. He asked that if the members had anything to take to the Board, to mention it to him. —Pat Panzer, Sec.

Charlie Wasson spoke on club finances at the August meeting of Big Spring Coin Club at Settles Hotel. Sixteen were present.

It was decided to raffle a \$20 gold coin to be given at the November meeting. —Mrs. J. R. Farmer, Reporter.

Morris Isabel gave a program on

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ANA



TNA

State of the Union series of commemorative medals struck by the Franklin Mint at the August meeting of San Angelo Coin Club at Town House Motor Hotel with 32 members and eight guests present. Isabel asked questions concerning various states and their nicknames which were symbolic of each state. Correct answers were awarded a gift.

Final touches were placed on the annual coin show set for September. It was noted that 392 special drawing tickets were sold with one member selling 184 of the total. —Club Bulletin.

DISTRICT FOUR:

Jack Woods was elected to be the reporter for Highland Lakes Coin Club at the August meeting held at Highland Lake National Bank. A drawing was held for a special prize of a \$20 St. Gaudens gold coin with winner being Culpeper A. Carter of Llano.

Lyman Bartee reported on the ANA convention. —LaRue Zachary, Sec.



Ray Kirkpatrick
Governor

The program of the Austin Texas Coin Club for August was one of show and tell participation. A few of the other hobbies or of interest were bottles, painting, books, antiques, barbed wire, hand tools, plates and refinishing old furniture. A change from numismatics is a good way to learn more about friends and members.

Bob Greenwood, David Bland, Charles Cole and Lyman Bartee attended the ANA convention and one member, John E. Davis, was awarded a 25-year membership pin but was unable to attend the convention.

Lyman Bartee, Sec.



Pyramids of Mexico was the topic for discussion by Brent Brown at the August meeting of Waco Coin Club. The group met at Texas Power & Light Service Center. Brown illustrated his talk with a series of colored slides.

William Maresh was elected to serve as president for the remainder of the year, the president having retired.

Visitors are always welcome to club meetings and as the Center can be reserved only one month at a time it is sometimes necessary to change the meeting place and date. If you are visiting in Waco and would care to visit the club, get in touch with J. P. Jones, 1517 Clay Ave., Waco 76706. —J. P. Jones, Sec.



DISTRICT FIVE:

The eighth annual Dallas East Coin Club show will be held October 30-31 at Lochwood Hall, Lochwood Village in Dallas.

For bourse reservations contact the chairman at Box 28661, Dallas 75228. —Charles Willis, Reporter.



Bob Hewgley,
Governor

Members of Texomaland Coin & Stamp Club of Denison had their numismatic knowledge tested during a recent program conducted by the club secretary, M. J. Reesby. Teams chosen by club president, Charles Wingo, and club auctioneer, James Cole, competed. Reesby had selected interesting items from the current Red Book and asked questions based on them. Although he called the con-

test a tie it was generally conceded that Lynn Mathis was the individual champion in answering questions.

Because of the football season, meeting time has been moved up to 7 p.m. for the rest of the year. The club meets on the first and third Fridays at the Denison Chamber of Commerce. —Col. Charles A. Wingo, TNA Rep.



DISTRICT SIX:

The August 5 meeting of La Marque Coin Club heard Mrs. L. Hermann card chairwoman, report those who were in the hospital. Included were Mrs. S. B. Johnson, Mrs. Lou Allen, A. A. Graf and cards were signed by the mem-



Charlotte Nichols
Governor



bers to be sent to each. J. C. Akey gave the program. He talked on the TNA medals and his collection of bottle caps from Avon.

At the August 19 meeting the club held a poor man's auction. Members voted to place copies of the 1971 Red Book and World Coin Brown book in the La Marque Library.

A report on the ANA convention held in Wash., D.C. was given by Ruby Threlkeld. Ruby was elected to the Board of Governors of International Order of Wooden Money Collectors, better known as IOWMC. The members gave her a standing ovation. She is a charter member of the organization. —Ruby Threlkeld, Sec.



The regular meeting of Galveston County Coin Club of Texas City was held August 25 and the members voted to have another of their famous Country Markets on October 23 at Nessler Civic Center. General chair-

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Mrs. L. K. Richards and Mr. Caroline Akers. Other members will assist.

Members accepted an invitation to visit La Marque Coin Club and share

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in a covered dish supper. Ruby Threlkeld had the 1971 bronze TNA medals to sell and Car Nessler Jr served as auctioneer for the 35 assorted lots sold.—Ruby Threlkeld, Sec.

DISTRICT SEVEN:

Recent programs for the Aramo Coin Club of San Antonio have included a "stump the expert panel" composed of Troy Coan, Lee Grossman and Andy Holds, MC'd by Ray Whyborn. ANA educational awards went to Whyborn, Marcus Brown and Grossman.



Ray Whyborn
Governor

The club ANA representative, Ilse Griffith, reported on her recent trip to the national convention in Wash., D. C. Don Jacobson presented a talk on treasure hunting and showed his metal detection equipment.

Meeting place for the club is the Fed Cross Bldg., 90 Breez Blvd. on the second and fourth Tuesday.—John M. Holds, Sec.

DISTRICT EIGHT:

The 10th annual coin club show, hosted by Liberty Coin Club of Corpus Christi will be held October 23-24 at the Memorial Coliseum with John Ricketts as general chairman. In charge of bourse is W. B. Parks and both may be contacted at Box 7001, Corpus Christi 78415.



John Peterson
Governor

Gold Coin of the Estado Libre de Mexico and a game night was scheduled. Club Bulletin.

Ernest Lamborn attended the first meeting in August of Corpus Christi Coin Club at Gulfway National Bank. A possible change of time and place for meetings was discussed. Lamborn gave a program on U.S. medal medals with exhibits of same and copies of the recently released price list for all who wanted them.

The August 23 meeting was held at the "Swinging Door" in the basement of the Wilson Building with 25 members and four guests present. Joe B. Davis, club representative, reported on the ANA convention. Beginning plans for a Spring show were considered and a committee appointed to pursue the matter. A slide set from the TNA Memorial Library on "Some Significant Coins" was viewed. Norma Mather, Sec.



DISTRICT NINE:

The South Plains Coin Club met August 10 at Municipal Garden & Arts Center with 27 in attendance. A discussion was held on the latest coin report meeting on the 19th of District 9 and having the TNA president, Elton Barbee, as a special guest. Appointed to a nominating committee for new officers were C. L. Buchanan, Elmo Webb and Don Henderson.



D. O. Joplin
Governor

An auction followed the meeting.—D. O. Joplin, Gov., Dist. 9.



Bryan Steger was presented a TNA merit award for his report on the

ANA convention at the August meeting of **Levelland Coin & Stamp Club**. Ten attended the meeting at the Chamber of Commerce building.

A discussion was held on a combined meeting for District 9. Cards were mailed to the Steger family and W. L. Stephens. D. O. Joplin displayed a card he received from Lyman Bartee, TNA president, with the ANA cancellation — D. O. Joplin, Gov. Dist. 9.

Lamb County Coin Club of Littlefield met in August at the Reddy Room with 23 members and guests present. Larry Sanderson described the best design for the Pioneer Day Celebration parade.

Pryor Steger reported on the ANA convention — D. O. Joplin, Gov. Dist. 9.

DISTRICT THIRTEEN:

The **Wichita Falls Stamp and Coin Club** met for the regular meeting at the YMCA on August 12. M. L. Goolsby, president, conducted the meeting and announced plans for the 85th annual convention of the American Philatelic Assn.,

which was held in San Antonio in August. Rev. Elwood S. Poore represented the club at the convention. Routine reports were given by W. C. Williams, governor of TNA District 13, and Roger Paulk, secretary.

Rev. Poore showed a photographic collection of his stamps covering the Creation, Biblical events, composers and musicians. He had arranged his own musical background and narrated the presentation. The speaker's hobbies include stamps, music



W. C. Williams
Governor

and photography. He displayed his original stamps from which the photographs had been made — Mrs. G. M. Howard, Publicity.

DISTRICT FOURTEEN: Reporting 100 Per Cent

The **Port Isabel Coin Club** met in August to further plans for the annual con show held at the Sea Island Motel on September 26.

John Chisum is the club president — **Ada Lee Chisum, Reporter.**



John L. Chisum
Governor

President L. G. Davenport showed slides made at the NECA convention in North Hollywood, Calif., which he attended, at the **South Texas Error Club** when they met in regular session at Chisum's Rock Shop in Pharr. Eighteen were present.

Members and guests checked rolls of nickels for mint errors — **Oneta Grisham, Reporter.**

Twenty people attended the monthly meeting of **Brownsville Coin Club** held at Chateau Motel.

A regular jack pot drawing is held at each meeting. — **Ada Lee Chisum, Reporter.**

Plans are being made to sponsor a Winter con show by members of the **Harlingen Coin Club** with details and dates to be announced at a later date.

There was no meeting on Labor Day and only one meeting was held in September — **Ada Lee Chisum, Reporter.**

Programs for **Willacy County Coin Club**, meeting at the Dew Drop Inn,

Lyford, included the story of money by Robert C. Dedmon and paper money by Annette Fortsen. —**Ada Lee Chisum, Reporter.**



The speaker for the September 2 meeting of **Hidalgo Coin Club** was unable to attend due to her husband's illness so a substitute program was held. Displaying and describing exhibits were **Ada Lee Chisum**, **Royal Thai Mint Set**, **H. C. Card**, type set of U.S. coins, and **Howard Heath**, type set of U.S. gold. —**Oneta Grisham, Reporter.**



Joe Bozada of **McAllen** spoke on mint errors and displayed some unusual specimens at the recent meeting of **San Benito Coin Club**. Fourteen were in attendance at **Palmville Recreation Center**. —**Oneta Grisham, Reporter.**



DISTRICT FIFTEEN:

Beaumont Coin Club, with 46 persons present, met in August at the **First Security National Bank**, and heard a complete report on the **ANA convention** by **C. L. Babcock**.



Jerry Williams
Governor

Certificates of awards were made to members who participated in **National Coin Week** and those who had presented programs for the club.

T. G. Brown was the auctioneer. —**Shirley Williams, Reporter.**



Plans for the **Hobby Show** at **Texas National Guard Armory** in **Fort Arthur** **October 23-24** were made at the regular meeting of **Greater Port Arthur Coin Club** meeting held at **Merchant National Bank**. For further

information contact **L. E. Buss**, Box 3981, **Port Arthur 77640**.

C. L. Babcock reported on the **ANA convention** and read an article on how a coin club should work to increase membership. —**Shirley Williams, Reporter.**



DISTRICT SIXTEEN:

The **Corsicana Coin Club** meets the first Tuesday in each month at 7:30 p.m. in the **Recreation Center** of the **First Methodist Church** corner of **West 4th Ave.** and **North 15th Sts.** Visitors are always welcome. —**Fred Brooks, Gov. Dist. 16.**



Fred Brooks
Governor



5-Shilling Dollar

Over a period of years, during the reign of **George III**, a coin shortage developed in **England**. As the shortage increased, the people started to panic and took every opportunity to hoard any good money they could. By 1798 the situation was so acute that the **British government** through the **Bank of England** bought **Spanish and Spanish American 8 Real pieces** which pictured the **Spanish king**, counterstamped them with a small head of **George III** and announced that these counterstamped coins had a value of 4 shilling 9 pence. By 1800 the price of silver rose and the coins had to be revalued to 5 shillings.



Pervine King, while prospecting for gold in **San Luis, Colo.** in 1890, discovered prehistoric Indians had once dug there for turquoise.

MINT MUSEUM OF ART - CHARLOTTE, N. CAROLINA

From Museum Bulletin

The Piedmont region of North Carolina emerged as the major gold producing area of the United States following discovery in 1790 of a rich deposit of gold nuggets near Concord. One of these nuggets weighed 23 pounds and was the largest ever found in America. Though heavy deposits of surface gold were rare, the fire of the gold fields was strong. Shallow open pit mines and gold panned from streams, "Branch Gold," attracted numerous immigrants and led to the development of a thriving gold industry of which Charlotte was the center. Between 1840 and 1860, gold was the sustaining factor in the economy of Mecklenburg County.

There were, at one time, between 75 and 100 mines within a 20-mile radius of Charlotte. One, the Rudisill, founded by the picturesque Count Axel Rudisill, had a main shaft 350 feet deep and 3,500 feet of levels.

Early mining machinery was primitive and ineffective, consisting mainly of various pounding, grinding and crushing devices which pulverized the ore after it was brought was used to lay out the first downtown streets in Charlotte, the city with streets literally paved in gold.

Discovery of gold in California lessened the importance of the North Carolina fields, and by 1850 only ten mines remained in operation in the county. By 1900 most mining operations had ceased altogether, though mining resumed briefly during the Depression when plentiful cheap labor was once again available.

Gold from the early Carolina mines could be sold through local banks which charged commission, to jewelers who were sometimes dishonest

in assaying, or shipped to the Mint in Philadelphia with payment long delayed. Thus many miners preferred to deal with the Bechtlers, a German family who had settled near Rutherfordton and promised an honest assay, returning a portion of each batch as a check against fraud. They made gold tokens in denominations of \$1, \$2.50, and \$5, using different dies for North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. Their coins were not durable and Bechtler coinage was gradually abandoned after the Federal Government opened the first U. S. Branch Mint in Charlotte in 1837.

Congress recognizing the need for a mint near the gold source, had authorized the building of the Charlotte Branch in 1835. The handsome building, designed by William Strickland in the Federal Classic Style, turned out \$5,000,000.00 in one dollar, quarter and half eagle coins, before ceasing operations in 1861. The building was used as a Confederate Headquarters in the Civil War and for a time as a hospital. Afterwards though coinage was abandoned, it continued in use as a Federal Assay Office. Thomas Edison used the building from 1900-03 for experiments designed to separate gold from ore by electricity. Piedmont ore is of a low yield however, and Edison found too little gold to make the experiments worthwhile. The mint was to be removed from its former site in downtown Charlotte in 1935 to allow for expansion of the post office. Through farsighted efforts of a group of citizens, the historic building was saved, rebuilt on its present site in the Eastover section and in 1936 reopened its doors as the Mint Museum.

of Art

Today, although no real attempt are made to revive interest in mining the fortune that lies beneath Charlotte's measured laws, the McClellanburg Gold Rush appears to be over and the only gold treasures remaining are the rare and precious coins of Piedmont Gold bearing the "C" mint mark once made in the Charlotte Mint.

Hours for touring the museum are Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 3-5 p.m., closed Mondays and National holidays. It is located at 501 Hempstead Place, Charlotte, N.C. 28207 with a mailing address of P. O. Box 6011.

THE GIZZI PENNY

The Gizzi Penny is a long twisted iron rod, hand wrought, about 12 to 14 inches long, although some longer ones do exist. The ends are flattened into a tail and a wing. If either end is broken the "Soul" escapes and the money cannot be used again until the Medicine Man "re-incarnates" it. For this service he would charge a small fee.

This form of money still is used in Sierra Leone, West Africa. A dozen of these make about one shilling. A rich man of the area would have no problem of having his money stolen as it would be too heavy to carry away.

The Gizzi Penny also has another value above that of money. It can, with very little trouble be turned into a hoe or other tool with which to work.

The Gizzi Penny is now giving way to more standard forms of coins and is used today only in the more remote areas of West Africa. The day will come when this form of money will no longer be used in any area and another form of odd and curious money will pass out of existence.

TOUCH PIECES

A far back as 431 A.D. Clovis I, king of the Franks, claimed that a victim of scrofula (tuberculosis of the lymphatic glands, especially of the neck) known as the "King's Evil" could be cured by being touched by his royal fingers. This practice of touching came to England with Edward the Confessor in 1042. By this time the ceremony of touching was accompanied by the practice of presenting a coin to the ailing one. By the reign of Henry VII, king of England from 1485 to 1509, there developed what we know as the first touch pieces. It is believed that the coins were angels, large gold pieces that pictured the Archangel Michael, spear in hand, slaying a dragon. The reverse showed a ship. As can be imagined, the practice of giving each suspected victim of scrofula a gold coin became a royal luxury, then a royal burden, since many feigned illness to claim a gold piece. The practice of presenting these pieces discontinued with Geo. I, Elector of Hanover, who became king of England in 1714.

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